

Remarks:

Applicant has read and considered the Office Action dated April 4, 2005. Claims 8-11, 14-27, 27-30, 32, 41-42 and 45-49 were allowed. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

In the Office Action, it was stated that the drawings filed on November 12, 1997 were acceptable but were subject to correction of informalities. Formal drawings are attached herewith that correct the defects of the drawings submitted on November 12, 1997. In addition, brackets have been added to Figures 13, 14 and 15, reflecting the amendment to the drawings done by Examiner's amendment and requested in the communication dated August 12, 2002. Applicant asserts that the drawings are in compliance with the requirements raised.

In addition, the Examiner requested a new substitute specification incorporating all of the previous amendments. A clean copy of a substitute specification is enclosed herewith. The Examiner also requested a clean copy of the pending claims. Applicant submits a clean copy of the pending claims as requested. No new matter has been added. As the claims were allowed and all formal matters have been complied with, Applicant asserts that the application is in condition for allowance.

A speedy and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is hereby solicited.
If the Examiner feels that a telephone interview may be helpful in this matter, please contact
Applicant's representative at (612) 336-4728.



Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

Dated: _____

10/4/05

By: _____

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gregory A. Sebold". The signature is written over a horizontal line.

Gregory A. Sebold
Reg. No. 33,280
GAS/km

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/968,034
Reply to Office Action dated April 4, 2005

Amendments to the Drawings

Please replace the existing drawings with the attached formal drawings.